	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	10/654,744	SHIMA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Iriana Cruz	2609	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *09/03/2003*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-57*.

3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☒ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None of the:

    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

  * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

        1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of

        Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

  Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

ALEXANDER EISEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1.   **Claims 1-57** are allowed.

2.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

3.   Regarding independent **Claims 1, 14 and 27-28** none of the references either singularly or in combination teach or fairly suggest a printer that can obtain its location and calculate the relative distance between said printer and others printers in a network and store said distance.

The reference from **Nakayasu, US 2002/0051178 A1** teach a printer position information acquisition that acquires the information of the location of a printer using a GPS and send the information to the print client via mobile communications. Nakayasu also teaches a database where the printer location is stored from nearest to farthest from the print client but Nakayusa does not teach the printer calculating that location to calculate the relative distance between said printer and another printer, repeat that procedure with all the printers in the network and then store that relative distance locations information for later use.

The reference **Amarger, US 2003/0035122 A1** teaches a device that calculates the distance of all the peripherals (printers) available in the network by measuring the radio signals from each print request. Amarger teach the device being the communication point between the print client and the printer and the device comprises a method step that translates the information to be sent to be processed with the graphical instructions in the data for choosing to print in the nearest printer to the print

client trying to print a document. However Amarger does not teach the printer itself calculating the distance between itself and the other printers in the network nor the printer having the method to translate the print data to incorporate the location of the printer.

The reference **Jinbo, US 2002/0054330 A1** teaches an image forming system where a printer can calculate the distance between itself and a print client trying to print something, comprising a transmitter and a receiver for print data communication. Jinbo also teaches the printer judging if the distance from itself to the print client changes and how much, having a predetermine value for when it too far away turn the printer in saving mode and not print the document because the quality is not going to be good. However Jinbo does not teach a printer that calculates the relative distance between each printer comprising a transmitter and a receiver for communication between printers nor a judgment section that judges if the relative distance in between printers is under a predetermined range.

Regarding independent **Claims 29 and 36** none of the references either singularly or in combination teach or fairly suggest a print client that generate and transmits print data based on print data with an alternative print notice receiver that receives notification that the printer is not capable of executing a print operation containing a list of printers with relative distances between each other and an alternative printer selector which selects an alternative printer from that list with a second transmitter that sends the print data to the printer the selector selected.

The reference **Jinbo, US 2002/0054330 A1** teaches a print client comprising a transmitter and a receiver to communicate information with a printer. Jinbo teaches the print client that receives notification when the printer is busy and unable to execute a printing operation. Jinbo does not teach the printer communicating to the print client, sending a list of alternative printers with the relative distances between each other so that an alternative printer selector can select the nearest printer from the list of printers in the network.

Regarding independent **Claims 37 and 57** none of the references either singularly or in combination teach or fairly suggest a system comprising two printers each having a position information acquisition for acquiring its locations and a relative distance calculator that uses both of the printers locations to calculate the relative distance between them, with a storage to store the distances.

The reference from **Nakayasu, US 2002/0051178 A1** teach a printer position information acquisition that acquires the information of the location of a printer using a GPS and send the information to the print client via mobile communications. Nakayasu also teaches a database where the printer location is stored from nearest to farthest from the print client but Nakayusa does not teach a system with position information acquisition where after each printer calculates its location a relative printer calculator uses both locations to calculate the relative distance between the printers and store that information.

The reference **Amarger, US 2003/0035122 A1** teaches a device that calculates the distance of all the peripherals (printers) available in the network by

measuring the radio signals from each print request. Amarger teach the device being

the communication point between the print client and the printer and the device

comprises a method step that translates the information to be sent to be processed with

the graphical instructions in the data for choosing to print in the nearest printer to the

print client trying to print a document. However Amarger does not teach a system with

position information acquisition where after each printer calculates its location a relative

printer calculator uses both locations to calculate the relative distance between the

printers and store that information.

The reference **Jinbo, US 2002/0054330 A1** teaches a print client comprising a

transmitter and a receiver to communicate information with a printer. Jinbo teaches the

print client that receives notification when the printer is busy and unable to execute a

printing operation. Jinbo does not teach a system with position information acquisition

where after each printer calculates its location a relative printer calculator uses both

locations to calculate the relative distance between the printers and store that

information.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later

than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on

Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Iriana Cruz whose telephone number is (571) 270-3246. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-friday 7:30am to 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander Eisen can be reached on (571) 272-7687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Alexander Eisen
SPE
Art Unit 2625

September 11, 2007